

Overview of Carrollton Junior High School

Carrollton Junior High School is part of the Carrollton City School System and houses grades 6-8. There are approximately 975 students currently enrolled at CJHS. Our mission is to “focus on success for all students” and ensure that “each Carrollton Junior High School student should be accepted as an individual and provided with diverse academic experiences that promote maximum growth in knowledge acquisition, character, self-discipline, responsibility, and citizenship”. Our school is designed to provide students with as many learning opportunities as possible by using various resources that are available. Students have access to numerous forms of technology; some of which are listed below:

- (1) Classrooms are equipped with student computers
- (2) 24 Interactive whiteboards throughout the school
- (3) One business education lab—31 computers
- (4) Computer lab—30 computers; interactive whiteboard
- (5) Media Center—30 computer work stations; interactive whiteboard
- (6) 2010 Technology update throughout school—added ceiling mounted projectors, document cameras, and sound systems to classrooms.
- (7) Entire school system is connected through networking; CJHS also has its own closed circuit network.

Carrollton Junior High School has met Adequate Yearly Progress each year since the passage of the No Child Left Behind education reform law. However, based on CRCT data, there are areas of concern, especially concerning sub-groups within our student body. In order to address these needs, we have recently implemented an afterschool program called Trojan University. Trojan University is funded from a grant to build 21st century community learning centers. There are three main purposes to this program: one is to provide tutoring services to students as well as enrichment opportunities. The second purpose of this program is to offer additional services and activities to not only reinforce, but also compliment the academic program that students engage in during their regular school day.

The program specifically targets students that did meet the standards in Math and/or Reading based on their CRCT scores. The process for applying for this grant began during the summer of 2009, therefore the needs that were accessed for our school were based on CRCT scores from April, 2009. Trojan University is offered at no cost to those students that qualify and transportation after school is also provided to these students. When determining our need for a grant to provide a program such as this, several factors had to be examined; during this process numerous risk factors within our community were identified. There are several economic factors that exist, such as a low median household income, the high unemployment rate in our community, the percentage of people that live below the poverty level, and the percentage of students that qualify for free or reduced lunch. Other factors that were considered were the percentage of adults without a high school education and the teen pregnancy rate.

Carrollton Junior High School's 2010 CRCT scores represent several areas of concern, especially Math and Science. Scores from April, 2010 are as follows:

CJHS 2010 CRCT Results

Content Area	Did not Meet	Meets	Exceeds
Language Arts	8.4	54.4	37.2
Math	22.5	52.7	24.9
Reading	11	48	40.8
Science	24.6	51.2	24.3
Social Studies	24.9	34.5	40.5

As a means of enhancing our students' math and science skills, CJHS was recently awarded a STEM grant. STEM grants provide middle and high schools with funding to meet goals in promoting science, technology, engineering, and math in 21st century learning classrooms. STEM is intended to help schools establish STEM labs that enable students to engage in activities that require hands-on learning; provide students with multiple opportunities to use technology tools and build technology skills while working with the Georgia Performance Standards.

The implementation of both Trojan University and the resources that can be purchased using the STEM grant can be used to provide all students at CJHS with either remediation or enrichment that is rich in technology use. Both can provide students with opportunities to engage in project based learning activities that are based on the topics that are being studied while being able to incorporate technology into math and science, which have been identified as areas of concern.

Sources

Georgia Department of Education: STEM Grant

<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/it/asp.aspx?PageReg=ITSTemLabs>

Georgia Department of Education: 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant

http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/ci_iap_learning.aspx

Carrollton Junior High School

<http://cjhs.carrolltoncityschools.net/?pageName='AboutTheSchool'>